

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01
H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04
USIA-06 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07
PA-01 PRS-01 /120 W
-----271150Z 129638 /10

R 271040Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7670
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBWSY MADRID

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFORM ENRG, VE, SG
SUBJ: VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS SENEGAL

REF: CARACAS 14388

1. VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTER RAMON ESCOVAR SALOM PAID
DECEMBER 16-17 VISIT TO SENEGAL DURING WHICH HE MET WITH
PRESIDENT SENGHOR AND PRIME MINISTER DIOUF AS WELL AS
FOREIGN MINISTER SECK. DURING DINNER OFFERED FOR HIS
VENEZUELAN COUNTERPART, SECK REPORTEDLY REMARKED THAT IT
WAS HIGH TIME
TO DEVELOP BILATERAL COOPERATION SINCE "NO
CONCRETE ACTION" HAD TAKEN PLACE SINCE RELATIONS WERE
ESTABLISHED IN 1970.

2. VISIT REPORTEDLY PRODUCED "BORAD CONVERGENCE OF
VIEWS." OFFICIAL PRESS INDICATES NO ACCORD WAS SIGNED BUT
JOINT COMMUNIQUE RECOGNIZED NECESSITY OF UNDERTAKING
NEGOTIATIONS TOWARDS ACCORDS IN FIELDS OF CULTURE, COMMERCE,
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AND ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION. PRESIDENT SENGHOR
WILL REPORTEDLY VISIT VENEZUELA DURING 1977,
PROBABLY PRECEDED BY PREPARATORY VISIT BY SECK. SENEGAL
MAY BE RESPONSIVE TO OVERTURES FROM THE VENEZUELA AS
SPIN-OFF OF SENGHOR'S EFFORT'S TO STRENGTHEN LINKS BETWEEN
AFRICA AND ANTILLES.

3. IN AIRPORT ARRIVAL PRESS CONFERENCE DELEIVED IN
ESCOVAR SALOM'S UNIQUELY ACCENTED FRENCH, JOURNALISTS
PRESSED HIM ON POSITION HIS COUNTRY WOULD TAKE IN QATAR
OPEC MEETING, ASKING IF VENEZUELA WAS PREPARED TO SUPPORT
INTERESTS OF THIRD WORLD; FOREIGN MINISTER OFFERED DEFT
RIPOSTE THAT VENEZUELA WAS ITSELF THIRD WORLD MEMBER AND
THUS BY DEFINITION ITS POSITION WOULD BENEFIT THIRD WORLD.
AGGREY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DAKAR08387
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760472-0905
From: DAKAR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761213/aaaaaldh.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 CARACAS 14388
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <02 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS SENEGAL
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, VE, SG, (ESCOAR SALOM, RAMON)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006